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Brief Summary Text - BSTX (28):

Although applicable to other networks, the preferred embodiments facilitate surveillance in a telephone network, such as that of a local exchange carrier or a cellular carrier. In such an application of the invention, the monitored common channel signaling messages are signaling system seven (SS7) messages. The accounting messages are automatic message accounting (AMA) messages. Monitors on the SS7 links capture signaling messages relating to interoffice calls and some other calls that involve interoffice signaling, e.g. calls to manipulate control data stored in a central database. The programming in the switching office causes that office to generate AMA messages for all calls that do not involve the monitored SS7 signaling. Typically, these calls are intra-office calls or interoffice calls through offices using in-band signaling instead of the SS7 common channel signaling.

Brief Summary Text - BSTX (29):

Another aspect of the invention relates specifi